

Arkansas Insurance Department

Mike Beebe
Governor



Julie Benafield Bowman
Commissioner

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information contact:

Alice Jones
Communications Director
(501) 371-2835
alice.jones@arkansas.gov

Fraud Investigator Dispatched to Russellville

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS (August 22, 2007) —Upon receiving reports that individuals identifying themselves as insurance agents have been in the Pope County area attempting to solicit personal information and set up appointments with local senior citizens, State Insurance Commissioner Julie Benafield Bowman has dispatched an investigator from the Department's Criminal Investigation Division to Russellville. The investigator was in the area on Tuesday working with the Area Agency on Aging of West Central Arkansas and the Pope County Sheriff's office to gather information on what may be fraudulent activities on the part of certain individuals.

"Always obtain contact information from anyone purporting to sell insurance of any kind," said Bowman. "If you have questions about the validity of a product, call the Arkansas Insurance Department's Consumer Division at 800-852-5494 or the Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) at 800-224-6330," Bowman went on to say.

The Department's Criminal Investigation Division will continue to monitor activity in Pope County in order to ensure Arkansas consumers are not being misled or taken advantage of when it comes to insurance related products or sales practices according to the Insurance Commissioner.